

Media release

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Airservices commissions transportable radar at Mt Sandon

Airservices has commissioned a transportable radar at Mt Sandon in New South Wales as part of the organisation's En Route Radar Replacement Project (ERRP).

The Mt Sandon radar will provide coverage during an upgrade of the main en route radar at The Round Mountain (Coffs Harbour).

En route, or secondary surveillance radars, are used by air traffic controllers to provide separation of aircraft operating in high level airspace.

The installation of the transportable radar at Mt Sandon commenced in April and was commissioned on 30 November 2012. The transportable radar will remain in place until the upgrade of the main radar at The Round Mountain is completed in August next year.

"Installation of the transportable radar at Mt Sandon will ensure ongoing radar coverage during the upgrade of The Round Mountain radar and will ensure that we are able to maintain and enhance high levels of aviation safety in the region," said Airservices Executive General Manager Projects and Engineering, Mark Rodwell.

"Work will now commence on The Round Mountain radar site as part of the en route radar replacement project," said Mr Rodwell.

The radar provides critical surveillance coverage over a busy flight corridor between Sydney and Brisbane.

The en route radar replacement project is part of Airservices five-year capital expenditure plan worth over \$900 million and will see the replacement of en route surveillance radars located around Australia.

"These radars provide coverage for aircraft operating predominately in the high level airspace on the more significant routes. Some of these radars are also located so that they can support the coverage of nearby terminal area radars (TAR) and provide coverage in the busy airspace surrounding major airports to ensure continuity of operations in the event of service outages."

Airservices is a government-owned corporation which provides air navigation services in 11 per cent of the world's airspace – an area three times greater than continental Europe.

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